

Message Text

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62

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01

USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSC-05 AID-05 /053 W

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R 271947Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4287

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, AR

SUBJECT: ELECTIONS POSTPONED

REF: BA 0319

1. INTERIOR MINISTER ROBERTO ARES ANNOUNCED IN TELEVISION INTERVIEW SHOW LAST NIGHT THAT ELECTIONS WOULD NOT REPEAT NOT BE HELD ON OCTOBER 17. PERONIST PARTY ORGANIZATIONS, HE SAID, HAD DECIDED THIS NOT A CONVENIENT DATE AND HE AND THE PRESIDENT AGREED WITH THEM. ARES COULD NOT SAY WHAT THE NEW DATE FOR ELECTIONS WOULD BE BUT INDICATED THAT IT WOULD PROBABLY BE ANNOUNCED SOMETIME IN FEBRUARY.

2. COMMENT: THAT THE DATE FOR ELECTIONS WOULD BE CHANGED FROM OCTOBER 17 WAS TO BE EXPECTED SINCE THAT DATE WAS IN VIOLATION OF THE ELECTORAL LAW NOW IN FORCE (SEE REFTEL). IT IS NOT CLEAR, HOWEVER, WHETHER MRS. PERON NOW PLANS SIMPLY TO MOVE THE DATE BACK TO LATE NOVEMBER OR EARLY DECEMBER OF THIS YEAR OR WHETHER SHE PLANS TO POSTPONE THE ELECTIONS INTO NEXT YEAR. THERE HAS EVEN BEEN SOME SPECULATION THAT SHE WILL TRY TO ABROGATE THE AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION DICTATED BY THE LANUSSE GOVERNMENT AND THEN TAKE THE POSITION THAT HER TERM IS AUTOMATICALLY EXTENDED TO SIX YEARS AS CALLED FOR IN THE CONSTITUTION ITSELF. SO FAR THIS IS ONLY SPECULATION AND LEGALLY IT IS PROBABLY NOT A SUSTAINABLE POSITION.

HILL

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
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Disposition History: n/a
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Disposition Remarks:
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